

In the Father's House

*«As we have been united
in the profession of the faith,
so let us keep ourselves united
in suffrage and intercession».*
(Fr. Alberione)



At 14.50 (local time) on Wednesday, 18 October, at the Community of Madrid – Vizconde de los Asilos, our brother Disciple returned to the Father's house, after a serious illness,

BROTHER TEODORO GABRIEL ORTEGA PÉREZ **80 years, 62 of Pauline life, 58 of profession**

Teodoro was born on 9 November 1936 in Sotresgudo, a small village in the province of Burgos (Spain), from a large and rural family, with seven brothers and one sister. Raised in a deeply religious environment, normal in all of Castile, he was baptized on the same day of his birth. He would then receive the Confirmation at age 8.

He entered our Pauline community in Zalla (Vizcaya – Basque Country) on 11 January 1955. At that time, this was the only vocation house of the Congregation in Spain. Two years after Saint Paul opened the community of Coslada – San Fernando de Henares (Madrid), where Teodoro began the novitiate on 7 September 1957, and on 8 September 1959, he pronounced his first religious profession. During the juniorate year he devoted himself to the spread of the “good press”, house to house, in many Spanish cities. These were difficult times, and there were many needs, with big debts that weighed heavily on community finances. Finally, he professed the vows forever on 8 September 1964 in Zalla.

During the early 1960's, Brother Teodoro became involved in formation as an assistant to young aspirants. But it is the bookstore that would mark his apostolate: in fact, from 1960 to 2011 it was here that we find him constantly: first in Madrid (1960-1976), then in Bilbao (1976-1980), in Madrid (1980-1984) Seville (1984-1991), Bilbao (1991-1992) and finally in Madrid (1992-2011). A whole life spent among people, like bookseller, enthusiastic and generous. Thanks to his open, cheerful and playful character, he easily approached people, often creating beautiful friendships. He was a responsible Disciple in the workplace and able to find spaces for personal formation, participating in various cultural initiatives.

In 1996, the first health problems began, because he had to face the consequences of a stroke. Fortunately, in just over a year he resumed his apostolic activities. Finally, for a decade, he had retired from bookstore work, dedicating, always with a great sense of availability, to the needs of the community of Las Rozas (Madrid) and then as nurse of the Vizconde community (Madrid), helping the sick with great attention, according to their needs. Even with further serious health problems due to heart failure, respiratory and renal deficiencies, these did not force him to stop. At first, the illness had prevented his mobility and, subsequently, led to the end of his life. He left us a few days before he was 81 years old.

We thank God for the life of this brother of ours, deeply involved in the Pauline mission with such dedication and generosity. We entrust Him to the goodness of

the Divine Master and to the many Paulines in heaven resting in the Lord's peace: «My God, in you I put my trust, that I may not be disappointed» (Sal 25).

To Brother Teodoro we entrust the works of the 2nd International Seminar of Pauline Publishers, in progress these days, so that our renewed apostolic impulse would never lose the need for authentic relationships between us and the people of today, relations that have always characterized the apostolic life of our dear Disciple of the Divine Master.

Rome, 20 October 2017

Father Domenico Soliman, ssp

The funeral took place on 19 October 19 at 18.00 at the Chapel of the Pauline Community of Protasio Gómez (Madrid). The ashes will be deposited in the cemetery of Las Rozas (Madrid).

The circumscription Superiors should inform their communities about the prescribed suffrages (Cost. 65 and 65.1).